

REMARKS

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed May 26, 2000. With the cancellation of Claims 4-21, 25, 27-30 and 33-48 without prejudice, and the addition of Claims 53-69, Claims 49-69 are presented herewith for consideration. Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claims 49-52.

Claim Rejections

The Examiner has set forth a number of bases for the rejection of Claims 4-21, 25, 27-30 and 33-48 in view of the cited references. While applicants believe the rejected claims to be patentable over the cited references, applicants are canceling the rejected claims from the application so that the allowed claims may proceed to issue. Applicants shall continue prosecution on the rejected claims in a continuation application.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants are submitting herewith an Information Disclosure Statement. It is respectfully requested that the references in the attached Statement be considered in the present application.

New Claims

Applicants have added new Claims 53-69. Claims 53-59 are dependent directly or indirectly on allowed Claim 49. Claims 60-69 are dependent directly or indirectly on allowed Claim 52. It is therefore respectfully requested that the new Claims 53-69 be passed to issue. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner's prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should further questions remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 28, 2000

By: 

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